

**ENERGY SYSTEMS LABORATORY**

Texas Engineering Experiment Station
Texas A&M University System

3581 TAMU
College Station, Texas 77843-3581

February 6, 2003

Ms. Sheila W. Blake
Division Manager
Planning & Development, Code Enforcement
City of Houston
P.O. Box 61167
Houston, TX 77208-1167

Re: Selection of Weather Data for Energy Code Implementation

Dear Sheila:

After detailed review of the HDD temperature profile of areas within the City of Houston, the Laboratory has determined that Houston's selection of Hobby Airport weather station data for determining Heating Degree Days (Base 65) for Table 302.1 of the International Energy Conservation Code is acceptable.

On a separate but related issue, the Laboratory agrees that Houston should be exempt from the air economizer requirement because of the minimal number of days which a temperature based economizer is viable and the more common mis-operation of the devices, which results in increased energy usage.

We have a planned review completion for the remaining amendments on February 11, 2003 and will send a response for your review.

We will revisit our preliminary evaluation of other amendments, which relate directly to the selection of weather data. Thank you for your patience. We look forward to getting together with you again soon.

Sincerely,

Bahman Yazdani, P.E., C.E.M.
Associate Director